Appl. No. 10/755,996 Response Dated February 4, 2010

Reply to Notice of January 5, 2010

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said body

has a side surface interconnecting said first surface and said second surface is disposed on said

body.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). The device of claim 30 wherein the bone growth promoting

material includes collagen.

Claim 5 (Original). The device of claim 4 wherein the collagen is in the form of apatite

compositions with collagen.

Claim 6 (Original). The device of claim 4 wherein the bone growth promoting material includes

demineralized bone.

Claim 7 (Original). The device of claim 6 wherein the demineralized bone is a powder.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). The device of claim 30 wherein the body has an open cellular

structure to provide cavities in which bone can grow through.

Claim 9 (Original). The device of claim 8 wherein the body is made of a biocompatible metallic

material.

Claim 10 (Original). The device of claim 9 wherein the body is made of tantalum.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Original). The device of claim 8 wherein at least some of the cavities contain a bone

growth promoting material.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended). The device of claim 36 30 wherein said fastener includes a

screw.

Claims 16-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended). The device of claim [[1]] 30 wherein at least a portion of the

side surface has a configuration corresponding to at least a section of an outer side surface of one

of the first and second bones.

Claim 20-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended). An implantable device for reversibly changing a spatial

relationship between a first bone and a second bone in a joint from a wide first position to a

narrow second position while allowing relative movement between the first and second bones,

comprising:

a first surface configured to abut the first bone in the wide position and the narrow position;

a second surface being connected to said first surface and configured to abut the second bone in

the wide position and the narrow position, said second surface and the implantable device having

no fastener to fix hold in place mechanically said second surface the implantable device to the

second bone when completely implanted, said second surface being at angle relative to said first

surface;

a body interconnecting said first surface and said second surface, said body being coated with a

bone promoting material; and

a side surface spanning said first surface and said second surface;

a channel being formed through said first surface and said side surface having a channel formed

therethrough; and

a fastener being disposed in said channel for fixedly connecting said body to the first bone;

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said first surface maintaining an equal distance from not moving relative to said second surface

when moving the first bone and the second bone from the wide first position to the narrow

second position; and

the implant being fixed to only one of the bones the first bone.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein the

implantable device is rotated about an axis to move between from the wide first position and to

the narrow second position.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 31, wherein the

implantable device does not move longitudinally along said axis when moving from the wide

<u>first</u> position to the <u>narrow</u> <u>second</u> position.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn-Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 30,

further comprising a means for changing from the wide first position to the narrow second

position.

Claim 34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Previously Presented). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said

bone growth promoting material includes a bone morphogenic protein.

Claim 36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (Previously Presented). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said

fastener has an end proximate said side surface, said end being nested within said side surface.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said

fastener angularly extends at an acute angle through said side surface to said first surface.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said

first surface tapers to form a pointed edge with said second surface.

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Claim 40 (Canceled).

Claim 41 (Currently Amended). An implantable device for reversibly changing a spatial

relationship between a first bone and a second bone from a wide first position to a narrow second

position, comprising:

a first surface configured to abut the first bone in the wide position and the narrow position;

a second surface configured to abut the second bone in the wide position and the narrow

position, said second surface and said implantable device having no fastener to fix said second

surface to the second bone when completely implanted; and

a body interconnecting said first surface and said second surface;

a side surface spanning said first surface and said second surface;

a channel being formed extending through said first surface and said side surface; and

a fastener being disposed in said channel for fixedly connecting said body to the first bone;

said first surface maintaining an equal distance from not moving relative to said second surface

when moving the first bone and the second bone from the wide first position to the narrow

second position; and

the implant being fixed to only one of the bones.

Claim 42-45 (Canceled).

Claim 46 (Currently Amended). The implantable device according to claim 43 41, wherein said

fastener has an end proximate said side surface, said end being nested within said side surface.

Claim 47 (New). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein the first position is a

narrow position and the second position is a wide position, with the first and second bones being

spaced further apart in the wide position than in the narrow position.

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Claim 48 (New). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein:

said first surface is configured to abut the first bone when the first bone and the second bone are

in the first position and the second position; and

said second surface is configured to abut the second bone when the first bone and the second

bone are in the first position and the second position.

Claim 49 (New). The implantable device according to claim 30, wherein said implantable device

is configured to change reversibly the spatial relationship between the first bone and the second

bone between the first position and the second position.

Claim 50 (New). The implantable device according to claim 49, wherein said first surface has an

open cellular structure to provide cavities in which bone can grow.